



Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

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Monthly Summary for Dec 1 - Dec 30, 2012

Issued December 31, 2012

Small Grains Continued to Suffer

The condition of small grains and canola across Oklahoma continued to deteriorate under the protracted drought. Seventy percent of rye, 65 percent of canola and 61 percent of wheat were rated poor to very poor at the end of December. The poor condition of small grains meant limited grazing opportunities for livestock producers already facing poor pastures and low hay supplies. A winter storm on Christmas Day brought snow, with the highest totals falling in

southeastern Oklahoma. A few other minor precipitation events followed the last week of December. The Southeast district has recorded 2.49 inches for the month so far, with most districts averaging less than half an inch. Precipitation totals on this report include rain and snow measured through December 30th, but frozen precipitation is recorded as it melts, so some snow and ice may be excluded. Overall the moisture received during December was still far below average for the month, leaving seasonal totals even further behind. For the period since September 1st all districts have received less than sixty percent of their normal moisture. The North Central district has recorded only 34 percent of normal precipitation for this period. Topsoil moisture conditions were rated 92 percent short to very short. Subsoil moisture conditions declined from the last report and were rated 98 percent short to very short.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent		
<i>For Month Ending December 30, 2012</i>		
Moisture Rating	Topsoil	Subsoil
Very Short	68	80
Short	24	18
Adequate	8	2
Surplus	0	0

Small Grains: Conditions of wheat, rye and canola were rated mostly poor to very poor and oats were rated mostly fair to poor. Only 22 percent of the **wheat** crop was being grazed, 15 points below 2011. Thirty percent of **rye** was reported as grazed, 34 points less than normal. A very small portion of **oats** were being grazed, compared to 43 percent of oats grazed last year, and a five-year average of 21 percent.

Pasture and Range: Pasture and range conditions continued to be rated poor to very poor throughout December. Several precipitation events the last week of the month may benefit conditions, but much more moisture is needed for grass to recover from the extended drought.

Livestock: The limited availability of small grain grazing along with the poor condition of pasture and grass meant hay and supplementary feed were crucial for livestock producers during December. Low pond levels from the extended drought continued to be problematic as well. Despite these difficulties, livestock conditions continued to be rated mostly in the good to fair range.

Conditions by Percent					
<i>For Month Ending December 30, 2012</i>					
Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	21	40	28	11	0
Canola	17	48	29	6	0
Rye	26	44	26	4	0
Oats	25	24	47	4	0
Livestock	3	14	47	32	4
Pasture and Range	46	36	17	1	0

-over-

Crop Progress by Percent
For Month Ending December 30, 2012

Crop and Event	2012	2011	Five Year Average
Wheat - Grazed	22	37	35
Rye - Grazed	30	63	64
Oats - Grazed	N/A	42	21

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

For Month Ending December 30, 2012

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Month Dec 1 to Dec 30	Sep 1, 2012 to Dec 30, 2012		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	51	23	36	0.28	2.88	-2.23	56
West Central	53	28	40	0.29	4.31	-4.12	51
Southwest	55	29	41	0.35	4.16	-5.27	44
North Central	52	27	39	0.17	3.14	-5.98	34
Central	54	30	43	0.26	5.52	-7.01	44
South Central	57	33	45	0.90	6.03	-8.11	43
Northeast	54	31	42	0.36	6.47	-7.76	45
East Central	56	33	45	0.81	7.08	-9.33	43
Southeast	59	34	46	2.49	7.47	-11.06	40

Weather for Month Ending December 30, 2012:

Temperatures ranged from -1 degrees at Beaver on Wednesday, December 26th, to 86 degrees at Hollis on Saturday, December 1st. Precipitation ranged from 0.17 of an inch in the North Central district to 2.49 inches in the Southeast district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 29 degrees at Slapout on Wednesday, December 26th, to 66 degrees at Clayton and Durant on Monday, December 3rd.

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